

09/01/2004

March 8 for mention of RM100m Anwar suit

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - The High Court today fixed March 8 for mention of a RM100 million libel suit filed by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim against the Sun Media Corporation Sdn Bhd.

Deputy Registrar Noor Hayati Mat fixed the date in chambers.

The suit against Sun Media Corporation, filed by Anwar on Jan 26, 1999, was for publishing an article, based on a Press conference given by the then Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, titled "Anwar's behaviour despicable: PM' in the Sun newspaper on Sept 23, 1998.

In its statement of defence, Sun Media admitted that it published the words that Anwar found to be contentious on the ground that it was "an occasion of qualified privilege."

Sun Media said it was the legal, moral and social duty of the defendant to publish the PM's words.